



Genealogy Friends News

Genealogy Friends of Plano
Libraries

Genealogy Friends News
February 2010

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Saturday Seminars

Mark your calendars now for the exciting Genealogy Friends events in 2009 & 2010. Meetings are held in the Program Room at the Haggard Library, 2501 Coit Rd., Plano, TX from 10:15 to 12:30:

Today's Topic:

February 20, 2010—Joanne Corney will speak to us on AniMap and Centennia.

Future Topics:

February 27, 2010—Learn-n—We'll have two classes one on Using Family Search.org Outlines to Guide Your Research and Beginning Genealogy.

March 20, 2010—Barbara Coakley will present “Analyzing Records—Find All the Clues” & Jean Funk will do a program on Genealogy Jeopardy

April 17, 2010—”Fighting Hate Through Film” by Dan Spigel.

May 15, 2010—Bob McGuire and Ruthie Mathews are going to teach us about Family Keepsakes and Creative Memories

June 19, 2010—Will be announced later

July 17, 2010—Tresa Tatyrek will speak to us about Heritage Quest

August 21, 2010—Will be announced later

September 18, 2010—Kelvin Meyers presents “The Hand That Rocked the Cradle Could Rule the World” and “Skallywags, Rogues, and Ruffs: All Those Ancestors We Don't Talk About

October 16, 2010—All Day Seminar—Topics will be Court Records, Land Records and Church Records. More info to come soon.

November 20, 2010—Will be announced later

December 18, 2010—Show and Tell—bring your genealogy finds and share them with us

If you have suggestions for programs please submit them to Jean Funk at jeano25@aol.com.

Genealogy Class

“Writing for Genealogists” will be offered on Tuesday nights from 6/8 to 7/27 from 6:30 to 9:00 pm at the Courtyard Campus of Collin College (formerly CCCC). The class will cover various ways to write your family history. Why not do something with all the information you have collected on your family? Don't wait until you've found everything on your family to write your book. There are other ways to share your research.

“Online Research” will also be offered, dates haven't been determined yet. Instructor for both classes is Barbara Coakley. To register visit the college's web site <http://www.ccccd.edu/ce/index.html> or call 972-985-3711—CRN 74043.

VPike

Virtual Turnpike combines Google maps with pictures of streets. Use it to find addresses where your ancestors lived. I found that in some places photographs are available of all the streets and in others only major streets. Photos aren't real time. I looked at streets in Chicago recently and there was no snow. Check it out at www.vpike.com.

Learn-N

Join us on February 27th from 10:30 to 12:30 for two new classes.

Carol Hofer will present “Using FamilySearch.org Research Outlines to Guide Your Reserach”

&

Barbara Coakley will present “Genealogy—Getting Started”

Space is limited so if you plan on attending please email Linda Cospers at s-lcosper@juno.com.

A \$10 donation is suggested. The money is used to purchase materials for the Genealogy section at the Haggard Library.

Tracing Our Roots Column

The "Tracing Our Roots" column written by Brenda Kellow appears each Sunday in the 'PULSE' or 'ENTERTAINMENT' section of the Plano Insider newspaper, and in Star Community newspapers throughout North Texas.

Her columns are also available in the column archives at <http://tracingourroots.weebly.com/2009-index.html>

Genealogy Friends Logo Shirts

Be one of the best-dressed genealogists in town.

In addition to the ever popular Gen Friends logo t-shirts and sweatshirts, we now have Henley's and polo style shirts available. The shirts have a 3" dark green logo printed on the left chest. All shirts are available in toddler through XXXL.

T-shirts (white, neutral, ash, light blue, pink, yellow and sand) \$15.00

Sweatshirts (white, neutral, ash, light blue, pink, yellow. light green or sand)\$20.00

Henley's (white, ash or natural) \$20.00

Polo Shirts (white, ask or light blue) \$20.00

Long Sleeved T-shirts (white, natural, ash, light blue, pink, yellow or sand) \$18.00



Genealogy Conferences

Conferences are a great place to sharpen your skills, network with other genealogists, learn about what's new in the genealogy community and shop at vendors. There are two national conferences each year:

National Genealogy Society 2010 Family History Conference "Follow Your Ancestral Trail" will be held 28 April—1 May 2010 in Salt Lake City, Utah. The conference brochure is available on the NGS website—http://www.ngsgenealogy.org/cs/conference_info

The Federation of Genealogical Societies (FGS) conference "Rediscovering Americas First Frontier" will be held in Knoxville, Tennessee 18-21 August 2010. Information is available on the FGS website <http://www.fgs.org/2010conference/index.php>

In addition to the national conferences, there are smaller regional conferences that are closer to home and less expensive you might want to consider:

The Oklahoma Genealogy Society is holding their 2010 Spring Seminar "Google Earth, Mapping and GPS for Genealogists" in Oklahoma City 3 April 2010. Here is their website <http://www.okgensoc.org/events/2010-springsem-program.htm>

The Texas State Genealogy Society conference "Bridging Generations" will be in Waco 4-6 November. They'll be celebrating their 50th anniversary during the conference. Information will be available on their website <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~txsgs/>

The Dallas Genealogy Society will be holding an institute on German Research July 23-24th. Their website is <http://www.dallasgenealogy.org/>.



Legacy Users Group

The Legacy Family Tree users group meets the fourth Tuesday of each month at the Haggard Library in the Program Room from 10:30 to 12:30.

Contact Joanne Corney at ptxlegacyug@verizon.net for more information.

Publications For Sale

The following are available from Genealogy Friends:

Public Land Survey Systems	\$5
Plano Star Courier Index 1904-1910	\$20
Plano Star Courier Index 1911-1917	\$20
Cemeteries of Collin County, TX	\$40
Collin County, TX Voter Registration Index 1867	\$20
Place Names of Collin County, TX	\$10
Railroads in Collin County, TX	\$10
Military Investigations: Red, White & Blue	\$10
Colonial Ills, Brews & Concoctions	\$10
Library 101: Using Dewey Decimal Sys	\$10
Compiled Newsletters with Index	\$15

Join Genfriends

Time to Renew Memberships! Or if you aren't a member, please consider joining Genfriends. The money we raise is used to purchase materials for the Genealogy Section at Haggard Library.

Individual memberships are \$30 and family memberships are \$50.

Dues year runs from October 1 to September 31.

FARMERS, ROYAL ROOTS, HISTORICAL FIGURES and THEIR CONNECTIONS**By Brenda Kellow**

Genealogy is about bloodline ancestors. Most of us like to go back to the 17th century immigrant ancestor if possible, but many researchers don't realize that this ancestor could be connected with royalty. Even if your ancestors were farmers like some of mine, it is possible to have ancestors who descended from kings and queens or those who worked in the court. This is the case with most American's claiming royal ancestry.

Because of the line of descent to the throne and the numbers of children born in and out of wedlock, not all would wear the crown. They often married into the gentry and the middle class. Their children probably married within the court or at least professional people. If any of these left the country for America, they are the ones most likely to eventually marry into the farming community.

Finding the ancestry of your 17th century family could take you into the royal lines of Europe. It could also connect to United States presidents. The latest one of those public disclosures included my husband's ancestor, Richard Singletary. One never knows where those connections will lead.

Just recently the New England Historic Genealogical Society announced that the President and the newly elected republican senator Scott Brown of Massachusetts are related. Both men descend from Richard Singletary of Haverhill, Massachusetts. In this case, the mothers of both men descend from Richard Singletary: Obama from the eldest son Jonathan and Brown from Richard's son Nathaniel.

Ne'er do-well Jonathan Singletary legally changed his surname to Dunham claiming to have descended from the Dunham's in England, a myth as far as I can determine. According to *Records of the Colony of New Plymouth in New England* (1856), 6:113f, Jonathan was a vagabond, an adulterer, and sentenced to be "publicly (sic) whipt (sic) att (sic) the post." Jonathan was banned from the colony and he moved to New Jersey.

Family lore as told to me by my mother-in-law Martha (Singletary) Kellow, not a genealogist, is that the immigrant child named Richard was from a wealthy and titled family of England. Richard was the only living child of the oldest branch of the family. An heir of the younger branch was to have Richard killed, but he was smuggled into America. He was given the name Singletary because he was the *single* descendant to come to America and that he would *tarry* here and would never return to England. She never mentioned the name Dunham. Maybe one day someone will document this story, but until then it is legend.

My husband's Singletary line comes from Richard Singletary through Nathaniel and down to Joseph E. Singletary who was the minister of Tired Creek Primitive Baptist Church in Decatur County, Georgia and fought in the Revolutionary War. Joseph's military tombstone reads, "Pvt. Joseph E. Singletary, NC Militia, Rev. War, June 9, 1761-Apr 14, 1844." Joseph is buried on private land in Georgia still owned by a member of the Singletary family.

After talking to my sister-in-law, also a genealogist, I found she too descends from the same branch of the Singletary family as her husband, but through another son of Richard in Massachusetts. She and her husband both grew up in different states and never knew of the connection until their marriage when she began researching his family.

My husband grew up on the east coast while I grew up in Texas, so who would think we would go back to the same ancestor? But we do. We both descend from Stephen Hopkins, our ancestor who came to America on the Mayflower in 1620. Hopkins has an interesting story! It is thought that he is the Stephen Hopkins, a tanner by

(Continued on page 5)

FARMERS, ROYAL ROOTS, HISTORICAL FIGURES and THEIR CONNECTIONS

(Continued from page 4)

trade, who went to Bermuda aboard the Sea Venture in 1609, bound for Virginia. Damaged in a hurricane, the 150 survivors of the Sea Venture washed ashore in Bermuda. Although stranded there for nine months, the company managed to build two ships, the Patience and the Deliverance, which eventually took them to Virginia. During their isolation in Bermuda, Hopkins was charged with insubordination, arrested and sentenced to death. His constant whining that his sentence was unfair to his wife and children caused his friends to acquire a pardon from the Governor. Therefore, surmising he was one of the crew of the Patience and Deliverance, Hopkins was one of the first to land at Jamestown on May 24, 1610. His residing at Jamestown is mostly conjecture. After returning to England he returned to the Colonies on the Mayflower.

While living at Plymouth, he had the good fortune to be one of the first to:

- sign the Mayflower Compact on November 21, 1620
- to leave the ship to find a place for landing
- go ashore at Plymouth Rock
- entertain an Indian in his home overnight
- accompany Governor Winslow and Squantum to Massasoit to wrap up a treaty
- be the Governor's Assistant for three years after Plymouth was incorporated
- have two of his servants, Edward Leister and Edward Doty, fight the first duel on record in the colonies

Ned and Ione Hoover are another married couple who found they descend from the same ancestor. After Ned began his research first on his line, and then Ione's line, he found they both descend from the Revolutionary War veteran Andrew Hoover, Sr. This relationship allowed their granddaughters to submit their papers to the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) through Andrew Hoover, Sr. We are not sure at this time if there will be one or two certificates issued showing Andrew Hoover, Sr. as the common ancestor through their grandparents' maternal and paternal lines.

Just this week a new acquaintance, Trudy Jackson, asked me over to her house for coffee and to meet a longtime friend of hers who is also a genealogist. The conversation eventually broached the subject of genealogy and she began telling me about some of her research and named several of the bloodline lineage societies to which she belongs. It is not uncommon to meet another DAR member, but when she mentioned she had researched to the sixth century, I was curious to know the lineage societies in which she was a member. I perked up when she mentioned she descended from Charlemagne, Pepin and the signers of the Magna Charta. Since I descend from those men, we began to compare surnames. It turned out that Denise Cervantes' direct line and mine weave back and forth throughout the centuries and countries of Europe, but do not connect again after the lines came to America.

I venture to say that if more researchers could get back to their 17th century immigrant ancestor and take them back to their respective countries more of us would find we are related. Once the immigrant is here, their offspring marry the children of other immigrants' children and sooner or later the farmers we fail to suspect as descending from nobility are really the key to fascinating results and connections.

